

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 EB-08 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-07

/085 W

-----027832 091430Z /47

R 090818Z SEP 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8668

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2025

NOFORN

E.O. 11562: XGDS-1

TAGS: CH, YO

SUBJ: TITO ENDS PRC VISIT

REF: A) PEKING 2011; B) PEKING 2001, C) PEKING 1968

D) PEKING 1953

1. SUMMARY: YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT TITO WOUND UP HIS

NINE DAY VISIT TO THE PRC ON SEPTEMBER 8 WITH HIS

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DEPARTURE FROM URUMCHI. ALTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL

COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED, TITO HINTED AT A BROAD RANGE

OF AGREEMENTS INCLUDING CLOSER TIES IN ECONOMIC,

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND "OTHER FIELDS". WE THINK

THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT SINO-YUGOSLAV PARTY RELATIONS

WERE DISCUSSED AND THAT SUCH CONTACTS WILL CONTINUE.

END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT TITO ENDED HIS OFFICIAL STATE VISIT TO THE PRC ON SEPTEMBER 8 AFTER RECEIVING ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED MEDIA COVERAGE AND HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION BY PRC LEADERS (REF D). AFTER EXTENSIVE TALKS IN PEKING, WHICH TITO DESCRIBED AS "FRANK, SINCERE AND FRUITFUL", CCP VICE CHAIRMAN AND VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN ACCOMPANIED TITO TO HANGCHOW, SHANGHAI, AND URUMCHI WHERE HE WAS FETED BY LOCAL LEADERS AND GIVEN A HEAVY SIGHT SEEING SCHEDULE.

3. CLEARLY TITO DID NOT MINCE WORDS IN PRESENTING THE YUGOSLAV VIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. IN HIS PUBLIC BANQUET TOASTS, TITO EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO SEEK GREATER AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND WORK TOWARD ACHIEVING INTERNATIONAL PEACE. THE CHINESE, ON THE OTHER HAND, FEEL THAT "WAR IS INEVITABLE" BUT THEY WERE CAREFUL NOT TO OVER EMPHASIZE THIS THEME NOR DID THEY STRESS THEIR USUAL THEME THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS THE GREATEST THREAT TO WORLD PEACE.

4. DESPITE THESE DIFFERENCES, OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES HAVE TOLD US THAT A TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED (IMPLIED BY TITO IN A SEPTEMBER 5 SHANGHAI BANQUET SPEECH) AND THAT SOME FORM OF SINO-YUGOSLAV PARTY RELATIONS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. EVEN THE YUGOSLAV CONFIDENTIAL

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POLITICAL COUNSELOR HERE IS KNOWN TO HAVE STRONGLY HINTED THAT PARTY RELATIONS WERE DISCUSSED AND IMPLIED THAT PARTY CONTACTS WILL CONTINUE (REF A). ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED, TITO SPOKE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT IN HIS SEPTEMBER 7 BANQUET TOAST IN URUMCHI, SINKIANG JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT "BOTH SIDES HAD THE NEED AND THE DESIRE TO STEP UP THE DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER FIELDS". HE ALSO REVEALED THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO "CONTINUE OUR PERSONAL CONTACTS" AND THAT CCP CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG HAD ACCEPTED "WITH PLEASURE", AN INVITATION TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME". AS IF TO UNDERSCORE THE ANTICIPATED EXCHANGES THE PRC MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, SHA FENG, HEADED A DELEGATION WHICH LEFT PEKING SEPTEMBER 7 FOR YUGOSLAVIA (THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO VISIT ALGERIA), AND YUGOSLAV FILMS ARE NOW BEING SHOWN IN PEKING.

5. COMMENT: THE TITO VISIT UNDERLINES CHINESE

WILLINGNESS TO INCUR THE WRATH OF ITS INTERNATIONAL
IDEOLOGICAL ADVERSARIES. EVEN THOUGH THE PRC
MEDIA HAS GONE TO GREAT LENGTHS RECENTLY TO
DEFEND THE PRC'S VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SITUATION, SOME FORM OF PARTY RELATIONS WITH
YUGOSLAVIA WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CAUSE MANY "FRATERNAL
PARTIES" TO RE-EXAMINE CHINESE IDEOLOGICAL PURITY
AND GIVE RISE TO CHARGES THAT THE PRC IS RAPIDLY
MOVING TOWARD "REVISIONISM". THE CHINESE ARE
CLEARLY WILLING TO TAKE THESE IDEOLOGICAL RISKS
FOR STRATEGIC REASONS. PRC LEADERS APPARENTLY
VIEW CLOSER COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA AND OTHER
EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS AS NECESSARY TO KEEP THE
SOVIET UNION OFF BALANCE AND PREOCCUPIED WITH
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ITS WESTERN FLANK. THE PRC WILL MORE THAN LIKELY
CONTINUE TO EXPAND ITS CONTACTS WITH EASTERN
EUROPE AND ENCOURAGE GREATER REGIONAL COOPERATION,
INDEPENDENT OF THE SOVIET UNION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING02025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770327-0293
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770980/aaaacqag.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 55449849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PEKING 2011, 77 PEKING 2001, 77 PEKING 1968
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1331676
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TITO ENDS PRC VISIT
TAGS: PDIP, CH, YO, (TITO, JOSIP B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/55449849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009